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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON, D. C.



Alkali and Drought Resistant Plant Investigations March 1, 1922.

EGYPTIAN COTTON NEWS LETTER (Not for publication)

The information contained in this News Letter is drawn mainly from newspapers and trade journals, the published source of the information being given in every case. The object of the letter is to furnish information to officials and co-operators of the Department of Agriculture in regard to the condition of the market for long staple cotton. The Department assumes no responsibility for the accuracy and reliability of these quoted statements, and under no circumstances should they be republished as having been issued by the Department of Agriculture.

LONG STAPLE COTTON MARKET CONDICIONS

The New York Journal of Commerce of February 28 contains the following information from New Tedford:

"Demand in the extra staple cotton markets during the past week has continued very spotty indeed and actual dealing has been very limited in volume, though in some quarters there were signs of a slightly stiffer price attitude. Some brokers report that their quotations on certain kinds of staple cotton have been jumped to or 1-1/2c a pound from the figures quoted by the same people a week ago, but there seems to be no real justification for such action to be found in the volume of cotton being sold, for in none of the New England markets has the business been active and Southern centers report the demand from all quarters as very flat. "Strikes in Rhode Island and northern New England territory have resulted in the closing down of a

territory have resulted in the closing down of a great many cotton manufacturing establishments, and in New Bedford and Fall River, the only really large Dastern centers of cotton consumption which have

and the second second .

not been affected by the labor troubles, the videspread curtailment talk is beginning to be reflected in short time working schedules announced in both cities.

"While it is possible on the basis of world supply and consumption of cotton to figure out a relatively strong statistical position, the situation with regard to domestic supply and consumption is not quite so bullish. The stocks of cotton on hand in consuming establishments on the first of the present month were 1,675,000 bales in round numbers, or approximately 410,000 bales more than the amount held by consuming establishments a year ago at the same date. Not only is the supply already held by the mills greater but the outlook in New England at least is not bright for a full normal consumption for several months to come.

*

"There has been almost nothing doing in Egyptians and prices have remained virtually unchanged though the tendency has been slightly upward so far as nominal quotations are concerned. Brokers admit, however, that prices are soft to firm bids and though medium grade uppers are quoted around 26c to 28c, it would probably be possible on a firm bid to do as well as 25c to 25-1/2c. Medium grade Sak suitable for tire yarn work is quoted around 35c to 36c tariff paid, and it is rather hard just now to better that figure, the better grades ranging from 39c to 42c on a tariff paid basis and up to 46c or 48c for the very high grades. Peruvians and Sea Islands are absolutely inactive for the present and quetations on them are nominally the same as a week ago.

"On Pima the stiffer price attitude of the sellers has seriously hampered the dealing, as mills do not take kindly to higher prices for the raw material when the current market prices for the finished product are tending downward. Some complaint is heard of here as to the classing of the stock of Pima that has already been shipped to this city to be warehoused ready for spot sale. It is reported that this cotton is classed very well as regards grade but very lossely as regards staple, and with the increasing attention that is now being paid to the staple length of Pima it has been found



advantageous by some of the shippers in the Southwest to have their cotton reclassed from the staple length viewpoint and offered in more even running lots.

"Number ones having a staple of inch and fiveeighths or better cannot be had now at much less
than 37c to 40c, while Number twos are priced
around 35c to 37c and Number threes around 33c to
35c. Pima that pulls an inch and a half to an
inch and nine-sixteenths can be had approximately
2c a pound cheaper and Number fours in this type
of cotton are offered in some quarters as low as
30c or 31c. But there have been very few sales
of any kind put through during the past week on Pima.

STOCY AT ADEMANDRIA, EGYPT (from Commercial and Financial Chronicle of Feb. 24)

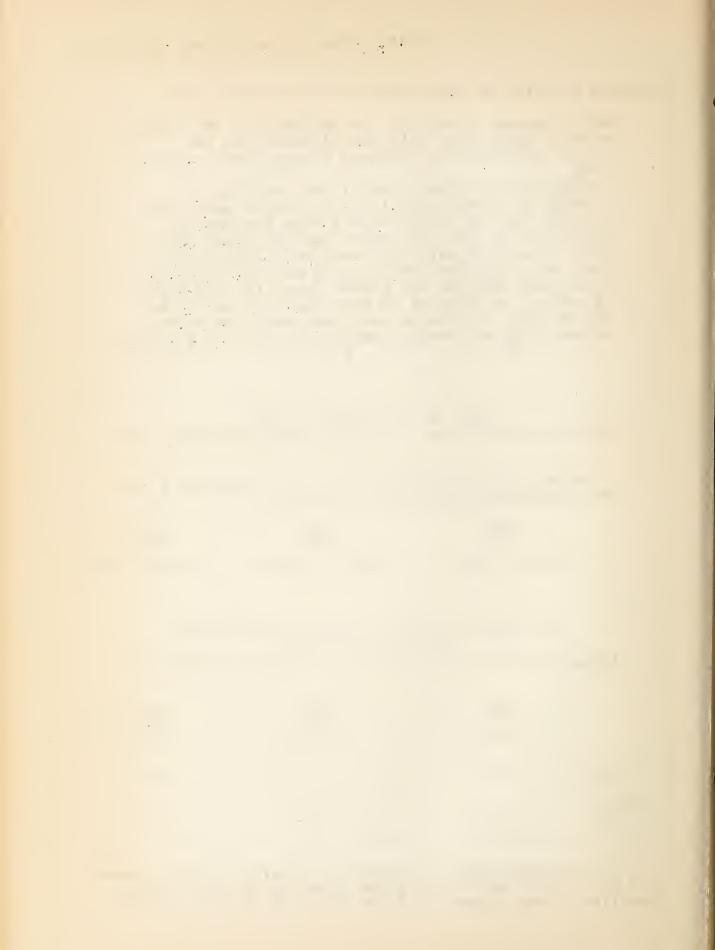
The stocks on February 24 of this year and of the two preceding years were as follows:

1922	1921	1920
313,000 bales	238,000 bales	166,000 bales

LIVERPOOL PRICES OF EGYPTIAN AND UPLAND COTTON ON FEB. 24 (from Commercial and Financial Chronicle of Feb. 24)

	<u>1922</u> (pence)	1921 (pence)	1920 (pence)
Good Sakel	20.75	15.00	93.50
Middling Uplands	10.25	6.76	30.02

¹ This corresponds to a price at Liverpool of 38 cents for Good Sakel and 19 cents for Middling Uplands, demand sterling having closed at \$4.39 at New York on Feb. 24.



Quotations at New England mill points received by Bureau of Markets on February 25.

Sakel

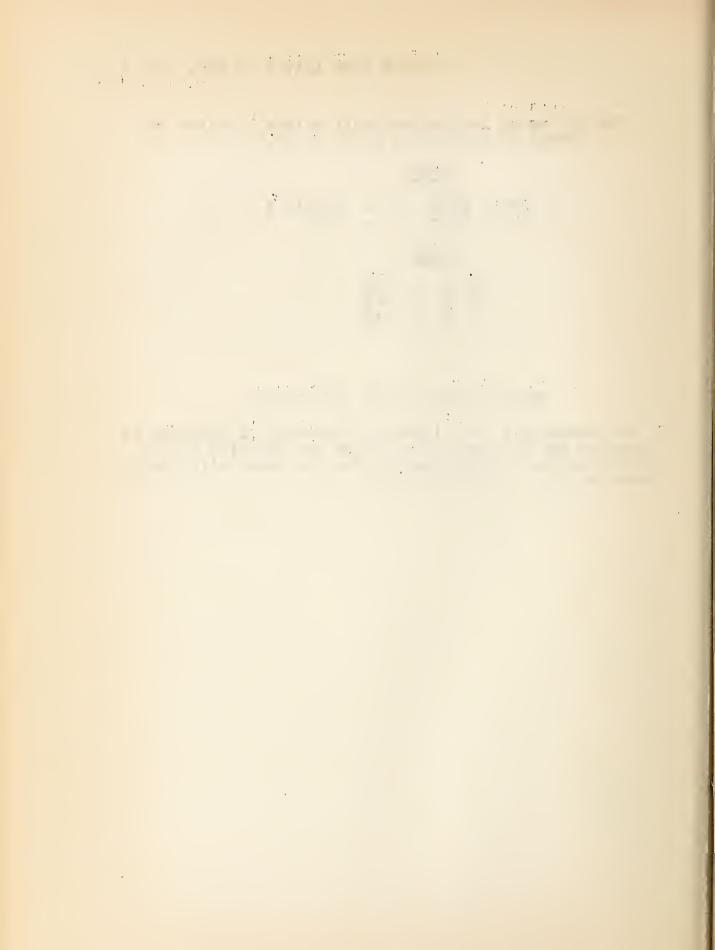
Fully good ---- 48-3/4 ¢ Good fair ---- 36¢

Pima

No. 1 - 38¢ " 2 - 36¢ " 3 - 34¢

MIDDDING QUOT/CIOUS AT SAVANNAH

The Commercial and Financial Chronicle of February 25 contains the following quotations for Middling Upland cotton on the Savannah market for the week ending Friday, February 24 - 17.25 to 17.50



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON, D. C.

Alkali and Drought Resistant Plant Investigations

March 7. 1922.

EGYPTIAN COTTON NEWS LETTER (Not for publication)

The information contained in this News Letter is drawn mainly from newspapers and trade journals, the published source of the information being given in every case. The object of the letter is to furnish information to officials and co-operators of the Department of Agriculture in regard to the condition of the market for long staple cotton. The Department assumes no responsibility for the accuracy and reliability of these quoted statements, and under no circumstances should they be republished as having been issued by the Department of Agriculture.

LONG STAPLE COTTON MARKET CONDITIONS

The New Bedford Standard of March 5 states as follows:

"Extra staple cotton markets in New England continued very slow indeed during the past week and dealing was confined to a few scattered lots here and there, mostly on actual samples. The mills are not getting any new orders to speak of and do not feel at all hopeful of the immediate future. They are therefore limiting their purchases to the smallest possible quantity, sufficient only to fill out their present stocks and complete orders already on their books. Some of the small purchases recently reported have been for replacement purposes, but in the main the unusually large volume of rejections which have taken place this year have been or are being adjusted on an allowance basis.

"Prices have shown but very little change on the staple lengths, the South showing much firmness and being unwilling to try to force sales through price cutting. In one or two instances where firm

bids were made for specific lots, the shippers showed no disposition to weaken in spite of the lack of demand in nearly all staple markets. ,

"Egyptian quotations took a drop during the week, but regained most of it during the closing days of the week, and as far as could be learned here the lower prices which ruled for a day or two did not develop any business, and there was no interest evident at the close of the week after prices had rebounded. * * For medium grade Sak such as is commonly used in tire yarns the quotations dipped as far down as 37 cents, tariff paid, but were back again at 39 cents at the close of the week, many brokers asking 40 cents. For slightly better grades the price was 42 cents and for the high grades quotations ranged from 45 to 47 cents, tariff paid.

"Peruvians and Sea Islands were nominally unchanged and absolutely stagnant, not a single in-

quiry being reported, * *
"Continued interest in Pima cotton has been shown on the part of some of the cloth mills and sales were reported in the neighborhood of 36 cents, the cotton being fully five-eighths in staple and ranging in grade from No. 3's to No. 2's, about half each. In another quarter there was inquiry for slightly shorter staple Pima, from inch and a half to nine-sixteenths, in No. 2 grade around 34 cents, but it was said that this was very hard to fill, as the mill demanded cotton on the spot and there being none available here at that figure. No. 1 inch and five-eighths staple was wanted around 37-1/2 to 38 cents, but spots were insisted upon and there was none available here that could be sold under 39 or 40 cents. Much of the cotton held in storage here is being kept off the market, the interests which control it having refused at the present time to set a price on it. Current quotations on inch and five-eighths Pima are approximately 39 cents for No. 1's, 37 cents for No. 2's and 35 cents for No. 3's. For inch and a half to nine-sixteenths staple the prices run 36 to 38 cents for No. 1's, 35 to 36 cents for No. 2's, with a few odd lots not available on the spot reported at 34 cents, and 33 to 34 cents for No. 3's and 31 to 32 cents for No. 4's.

STOCK AT ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT (from Commercial and Financial Chronicle of Mar. 4)

The stocks on March 3 of this year and of the two preceding years were as follows:

<u>1922</u> <u>1921</u> <u>1920</u> 312,000 bales 251,000 bales 157,000 bales

LIVERPOOL PRICES OF EGYPTIAN AND UPLAND COTTON ON MARCH 3 (from Commercial and Financial Chronicle of Mar. 4)

	1922	1921	1920
	(pence)	(pence)	(pence)
Good Sakel	20.00	14.00	86.50
Middling Uplands	9,98	6.56	29.15

This corresponds to a price at Liverpool of 37 cents for Good Sakel and 18 cents for Middling Uplands, demand sterling having closed at \$4.42 at New York on March 3.

QUOTATIONS AT NEW ENGLAND MILL POINTS RECEIVED BY BUREAU OF MARKETS ON MARCH 6.

Sakel

Fully good (prompt) --- 46-7/8 ¢ Good fair --- 34-1/2 ¢

<u>Pima</u>

No. 1 - 38¢ " 2 - 36¢ " 3 - 34¢

MIDDLING QUOTATIONS AT SAVANNAH

The Commercial and Financial Chronicle of March 4 contains the following quotations for Middling Upland cotton on the Savannah Market for the week ending Friday, March 3-17.63 to 17.75



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON, D. C.

Alkali and Drought Resistant Plant Investigations March 14, 1922.

EGYPTIAN COTTON NEWS LETTER (Not for publication)

The information contained in this News Letter is drawn mainly from newspapers and trade journals, the published source of the information being given in every case. The object of the letter is to furnish information to officials and co-operators of the Department of Agriculture in regard to the condition of the market for long staple cotton. The Department assumes no responsibility for the accuracy and reliability of these quoted statements, and under no circumstances should they be republished as having been issued by the Department of Agriculture.

LONG STAPLE COTTON MARKET CONDITIONS

The New Bedford Standard of March 12 states as follows:

"Considerably more active interest in extra staple cotton is reported in almost all quarters of New England during the past week, but the actual sales have not reached any very heavy volume and have been usually in small lots mostly of spot cotton.

"Price has seemed to be the big factor and the competition for the business the mills have to place has been so keen among the various brokerage firms that it has been comparatively easy to play one offer against another and thus to force the price down to abnormally low figures. There is enough selling pressure behind various small odd lots to make it possible for the mills to get the small quantities. that for the present is all they require, for a price that would be wholly out of the question had they any considerable quantity to buy. The general market levels on extra staples,



meaning the quotations from shippers for round quantities, have been remarkably steady, despite the unusually small volume of sales.

"Considerable Egyptian cotton has been received in Boston lately but there has been but very little activity of any kind in Egyptians in any of the New England markets. * * Medium grade Sak is offered on a tariff paid basis around 39 to 40 cents, but probably could be bought in small spot lots as low as 37-1/2 or 38 cents. Slightly better grades were priced around 42 cents and very high grades ranged from 48 to 55 cents, tariff paid.

"Both Peruvians and Sea Islands have continued nominally unchanged and stagnant, there being not

a single inquiry reported this week.

"Pima has continued to excite the interest of some of the New Bedford mills and during the past week inquiry was reported from Providence territory. One lot of half No. 2's and half No. 3's was sold at 33-1/2 cents, the staple length being inch and a half to nine-sixteenths, while another lot of No. 2's, inch and five-eighths staple, was bought at a price around 34 cents. Most of the demand for this cotton is for spots on which actual samples can be seen, but it is possible to buy future shipment cotton considerably cheaper than the spot prices, sometimes as much as two cents a pound. For example, for No. 1 grade inch and five-eighths staple 38 to 39 cents was asked for spots and 36 to 37 cents for inch and a half to nine-sixteenths staple in the same grade. It was possible to buy No. 1's for shipment from Alexandria, however, in the shorter staple length for as low as 34 to 35 cents. quotation on No. 2's was 36 to 37 cents for fiveeighths staple and 34 to 35 cents for inch and a half to nine-sixteenths, while No. 3's in the longer staple type could be had around 34 to 35 cents and in the shorter type for 32 to 33 cents. Similarly No. 4's were offered around 32 to 33 cents in the longer staple length and approximately two cents cheaper for the shorter length. These prices, however, are on a spot basis with a 22 pound tare allowance, and it is possible to buy similar cotton for shipment from the Southwest for one to two cents cheaper, provided no large quantity is needed.



"Prices on extra staples, strict middling white in grade and staple and classed as to staple on a very high and exacting standard of stapling, are quoted herewith as indicative of the levels at which round lots of cotton could be obtained. Small lots are selling sometimes at lower figures:

Inch and an eighth, 27 to 29 cents.

Inch and three-sixteenths, 30 to 31-1/2 cents.

Inch and a quarter, 34 to 35-1/2 cents.

Inch and five-sixteenths, 36 to 38 cents."

STOCK AT ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT
(from Commercial and Financial Chronicle of Mar. 11)

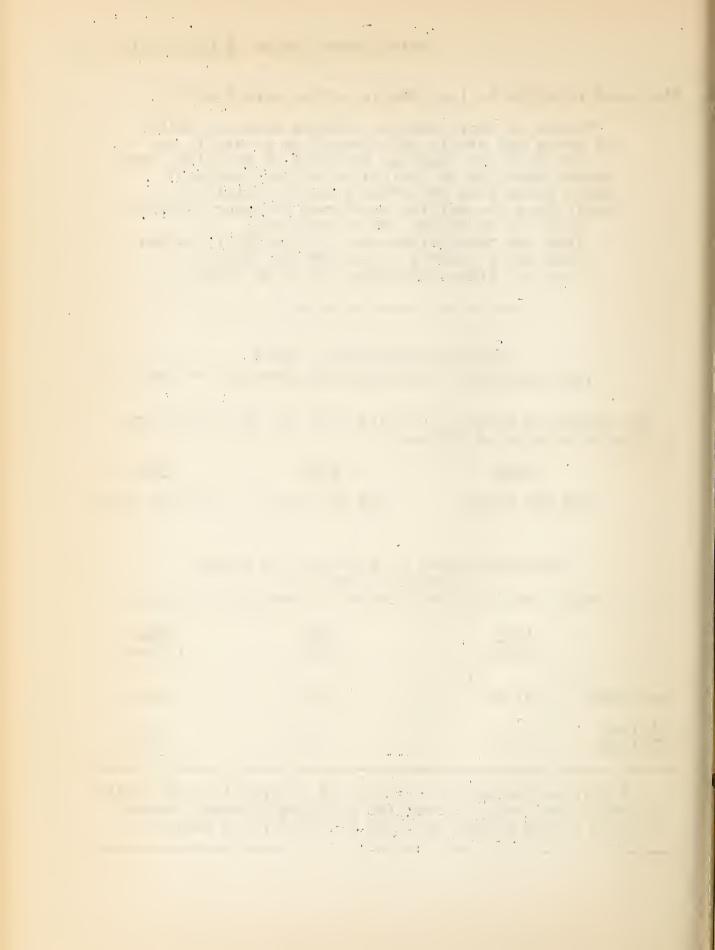
The stocks on March 10 of this year and of the two preceding years were as follows:

<u>1922</u> <u>1921</u> <u>1920</u> 305,000 bales 234,000 bales 143,000 bales

LIVERPOOL PRICES OF EGYPTIAN AND UPLAND
COTTON ON MARCH 10
(from Commercial and Financial Chronicle of Mar. 11)

	<u>1922</u> (pence)	<u>1921</u> (pence)	1920 (pence)
Good Sakel	21.00	16.00	88.50
Middling Uplands	10.57	6.94	28.65

l This corresponds to a price at Liverpool of 38 cents for Good Sakel and 19 cents for Middling Uplands, demand sterling having closed at \$4.36 at New York on March 10.



QUOTATIONS AT NEW ENGLAND HILL POINTS RECEIVED BY BUREAU OF MARKETS ON MARCH 11.

Sakel

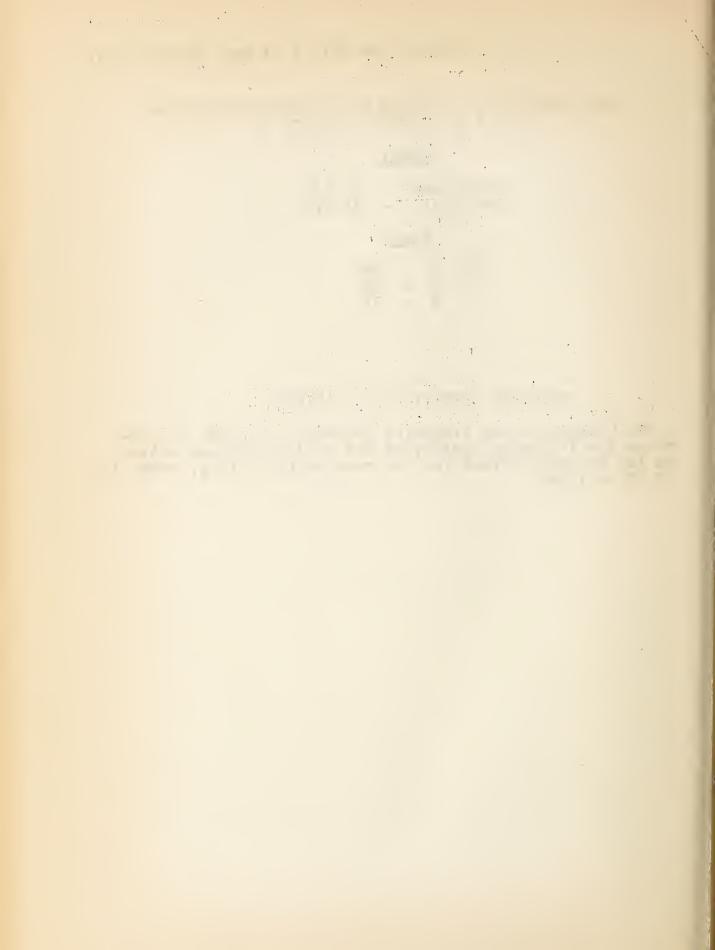
Fully good - 47-1/2 Good fair - 35-1/8

Pima

No. 1 - 35 " 2 - 33 " 3 - 31

MIDDLING QUOTATIONS AT SAVANNAH

The Commercial and Financial Chronicle of March 11 contains the following quotations for Middling Upland cotton on the Savannah Market for the week ending Friday, March 10 - 17.25 to 17.63



U. S. DEPARETHY OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON, D. C.

Alkali and Drought Resistant Plant Investigations March 21, 1922.

EGYPTIAN COTTON NEWS LETTER (Not for publication)

The information contained in this News Letter is drawn mainly from newspapers and trade journals, the published source of the information being given in every case. The object of the letter is to furnish information to officials and co-operators of the Department of Agriculture in regard to the condition of the market for long staple cotton. The Department assumes no responsibility for the accuracy and reliability of these quoted statements, and under no circumstances should they be republished as having been issued by the Department of Agriculture.

LONG STAPLE COTTON MARTET CONDITIONS

The New Bedford Standard of Harch 19 states as follows:

"With interest confined to scattered small lots of spots or actual sample offerings, many of which were apparently under some selling pressure, the market for extra staple cotton showed signs of weakness during the week and some of the prices reported were fully 200 points lower than the ruling level a week or two ago. The mills apparently are not really in need of additional supplies of cotton for present requirements and are merely buying in on general principles whatever small lots of suitable cotton they have offered to them at especially attractive prices. Brokers are very active with actual samples as a result of urgent messages from their shippers to obtain definite bids at whatever level the market effords, and it is difficult under the conditions to tell exactly what the market value of any particular lot of cotton is.



"The relatively weaker market position of full sixteenths to Boston eighths is traceable to the offering in the New England markets of considerable quantities of California cotton which runs just about this length this year and is slightly

lower in grade than in former years.

"This cotton formerly bore a rather poor reputation in this market, and many of the mills refused to use it owing to the bad reports that they had heard from those who tried it. Those who used it successfully grew to like it very much but they kept this side of the story from getting general circulation for a long time. It has finally become generally known, however, and Californias are coming into some favor this season, although, because of the storm during the picking season, they are not as high in grade as usual.

"Interest in Pina cotton continues quite active, though the quantity sold is not large owing to the slowness with which cloth mill work requiring such long staple progresses. A lot of 100 bales lasts a cloth mill a long time, but more and more cloth mills are coming to use this variety, especially since it is now relatively cheaper than peeler of equal spinning value. The market on Pima was broken a few days ago by selling pressure from cotton held outside the co-operative marketing organization, and agents in Arizona have been able to buy at levels which made possible offerings on a lended basis in the East around 31 cents for No. 2's, inch and ninesixteenths staple, and in one case a lot of No. 1's in this staple length was picked up around 32 cents. No. 3's in the same staple length can be had as low as 28 cents, which is on a par with the price of middling three-sixteenths. It should be understood, however, that these low figures, which are fully three cents under the levels quoted a week ago, apply only to lots for shipment from the Southwest. Spots are much higher, the stock held in storage here by the co-operative marketing association being priced around 36 to 37 cents for No. 1's and 34 to 45 for No. 2's and 32 to 33 cents for No. 3's, all of inch and nine-sixteenths staple. Inch and five



eighths staple or better range approximately one to two cents higher than these prices for spats, but can be had in the Southwest in limited quantities perhaps two cents under the spot price.

"Egyptians have been lifeless the whole week through, and prices are not greatly different from the levels of a week ago. Medium grade uppers are offered at 25 to 27 cents, while medium grade Sakellaridis, tariff paid, can be had at levels between 38 and 42 cents, the grades ranging from the British government classification No. 46 to 50.

"Doth Peruvian mitafifi and Sea Island have been stagnant for some time and both are nominally quoted at 28 to 30 cents for medium to good grade mitafifi and 43 cents for average extra choice Sea Island.

"Prices for strict middling white extra staple cotton classed as to staple on a very high and exacting standard of stapling are given herewith, being based on odd lot offerings mostly. Demand for any considerable quantity of any particular staple length probably could not be filled except at materially higher levels:

Inch and an eighth, 26 to 28 cents. Inch and three-sixteenths. 30 to 31 cents. Inch and a quarter, 33 to 34 cents. Inch and five-sixteenths. 35 to 37 cents."

STOCK AT ALFMANDRIA, DGYPT (from Commercial and Pinancial Chronicle of Mar. 18)

The stocks on March 17 of this year and of the two preceding years were as follows:

1922

1921

1920

303,000 bales 233,000 bales 144,000 bales



LIVERPOOL PRICES OF EGYPTIAN AND UPLAND COTTON ON MARCH 17

(from Commercial and Financial Chronicle of March 18)

	<u>1922</u> (pence)	<u>1921</u> (pence)	1920 (pence)
Good Sakel	1 21.25	17.00	85.00
Middling Uplands	10.75	7.31	20.80

This corresponds to a price at Liverpool of 39 cents for Good Sakel and 19 cents for Middling Uplands, demand sterling having closed at \$4.36 at New York on March 17.

EGYPTIAN COTTON IMPORTS

The Bureau of the Census reports imports from Egypt in equivalent 500-pound bales during the 7 months ending February 28, 1922, together with the corresponding period (as well as for the month of February) of the preceding year as follows:

Fe	bruary	•	7 mos. ending	g Feb. 28
1922	1921	:	1922	1921
36,243	7,908	•	157,618	41,367



QUOTATIONS AT NEW THICHAND MILL POINTS RECEIVED BY DUREAU OF MARKETS ON MARCH 18.

Sakel

Fully good - 48-1/2 c Good fair - 35-7/8 c

Pima

No. 1 - 35c " 2 - 33c " 3 - 31c

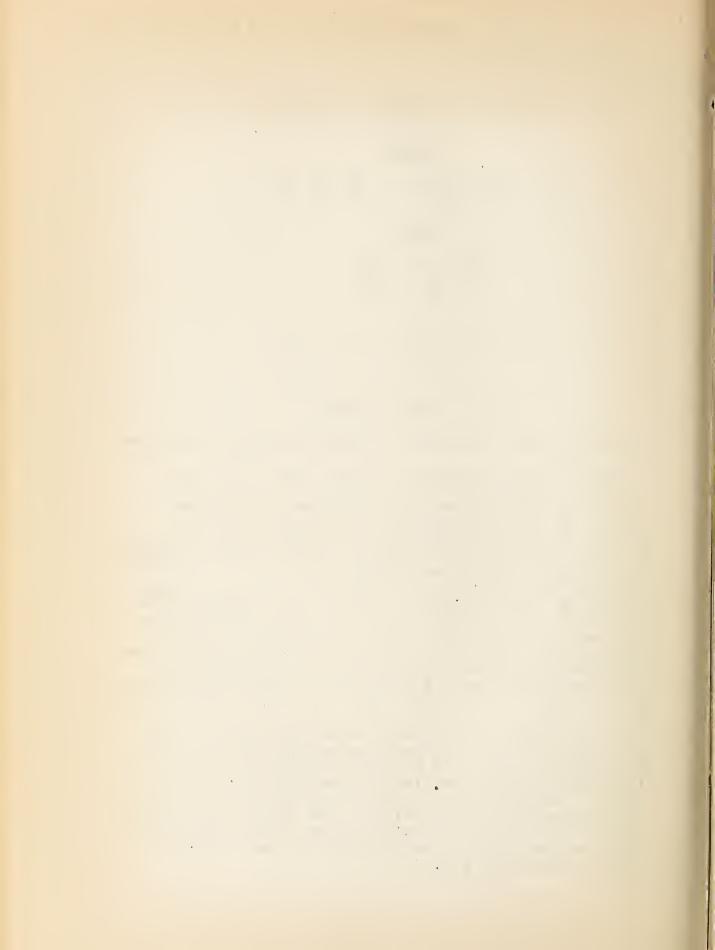
THE NEW CROP IN EGYPT

The New Bedford Standard of March 19 states as follows:

"News of the formation in Cairo, Egypt, of a big financial syndicate with a backing of something over 500,000 pounds for the purpose of stabilizing the market on Egyptian cotton is contained in recent market advices received from their Alexandria correspondent by Calder and Richmond, Boston cotton merchants. Some of the details are as follows:

'Prices have fluctuated by one and even two dollars during the same sitting, but lately the tendency has completely changed and a better feeling seems to prevail now in our market. The reason of the advance experienced during the last few days has been the news received from Cairo that a syndicate of cultivators and rich landowners was about to be formed in order to relieve the cotton crisis and to stabilize the market. *

'We learn from the Interior that the sowing of the new crop is proceeding everywhere both in Upper and Lower Dgypt, and it is said that Sakellaridis will be the only quality of cotton planted this year in the Delta. The temperature of the last few weeks has been very favorable to the sowing of the fields and, thanks to the diligence of the cultivators, the preparatory work for the new crop has started on much better conditions than last year.'"



MIDDLING QUOTATIONS AT SAVANNAH

The Commercial and Financial Chronicle of March 18 contains the following quotations for Middling Upland cotton on the Savannah market for the week ending Friday, March 17 - 17.25 to 17.63



Alkali and Drought Resistant Plant Investigations March 28, 1922.

EGYPTIAN COTTON NEWS LETTER (Not for publication)

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LONG STAPLE COTTON MARKET CONDITIONS

The New Bedford Standard of March 26 states as follows:

"The extra staple cotton market was as absolutely flat as it is possible for it to be during the past week, and the reports from the various brokers in the different principal centers indicate that the total dealing throughout New England for the whole week would hardly total enough to equal a real good week's business for a single firm. There is ample evidence that the mills are not in need of additional cotton just now, although a few of them, realizing the weakness of the demand, are seizing the opportunity to pick up any extraordinarily cheap lots that selling pressure happens to force onto the market at distressed figures. Some of the brokers find that their lowest quotations are fully five cents out of line when compared with the level at which some of the odd lot sales have been made. On the other hand, most of them report that they are getting hardly any offers from their shippers,

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and that the Southern end of the business seems for the most part to be perfectly content to await a reawakening of demand before seriously seeking any orders.

"California cotton is being heard of in the market more recently than has been the case for some time. There were reports in circulation here this week that good sized quantities of this cotton controlled by certain banking interests were being offered at attractive price figures, but they could not be confirmed. Sales of middling and strict middling Californias in staple length ranging from full sixteenths to flat inch and an eighth have been reported at 250 to 350 on and occasionally an odd lot at 200 on or less. Some of the Canadian mills have been buying this cotton in quantity recently, and it still finds favor here owing to its good color and the low prices at which it can be had. "In the face of the general lack of interest the slight demand for Pima cotton in certain quarters stood out in sharp relief and took on special importance. Sales in lots amounting to several hundred bales have been reported, but they were made at the sacrifice of price. In fact, the whole Pima market is much weaker than a week ago. in spite of the relatively larger volume of dealing. No. 2 grade is offered in some quarters as low as 31 to 32 cents, and spots can be had at the latter figure. It is even possible to pick up a few bales of No. 1's at 32 to 33 cents, and this highest grade is easily obtainable at 34 cents. In staple lengths these offerings vary from inch and a half to inch and five-eighths, and sometimes longer, and it is possible to get selections of the longer lengths occasionally at no increase in price. No. 3's can be had at 28 to 29 cents, either on the spot or for shipment. Some complaints are reported as to the classing of the Pima that is now held on the spot here, the claim being made that although the cotton is well enough classed as to grade, it is not in even running lots as regards staple length. For this reason some of the mills will not consider spot Pimas unless they can see samples and have the option of taking selections.



Although unconfirmed officially, there was a rumor this week to the effect that a deal is now pending involving a quantity of Pima said to be around 1.000 bales.

"Egyptians have been dull and for the most part unchanged in price from a week ago. Medium grade uppers can still be had around 25-1/2 to 28-1/2 cents, while medium grade Sak tariff paid is offered at 39 to 43 cents. * * Average extra choice Sea Islands can still be had at 43 to 44 cents, but there has been no interest in them for some time.

STOCK AT ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT (from Commercial and Financial Chronicle of Mar. 25)

The stocks on March 24 of this year and of the two preceding years were as follows:

<u>1922</u> <u>1921</u> <u>1920</u> 307,000 bales 235,000 bales 139,000 bales

LIVERPOOL PRICES OF EGYPTIAN AND UPLAND
COTTON ON MARCH 24
(from Commercial and Financial Chronicle of Mar. 25)

	1922	<u>1921</u>	1920
	(pence)	(pence)	(pence)
	1		
Good Sakel	21.00	19.00	84.00
Middling Uplands			
Uplands	10.69	8.05	28.38

This corresponds to a price at Liverpool of 38 cents for Good Sakel and 19 cents for Middling Uplands, demand sterling having closed at \$4.39 at New York on March 24.



QUOTATIONS AT NEW ENGLAND MILL POINTS RECEIVED BY BUREAU OF MARKETS ON MARCH 24.

Sakel

Medium grade - 35-5/8c

Pima

No. 1 - 34-1/2 c 2 - 32-1/2 c 3 - 30-1/2 c

MIDDLING QUOTATIONS AT SAVANNAH

The Commercial and Financial Chronicle of March 25 contains the following quotations for Middling Upland cotton on the Savannah market for the week ending Friday, March 24 - 17.25 to 17.50

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